

## Public Art and Cultural Commission

June 26, 2014

### Members Present:

Constance Richards

Gwynne Rukenbrod

Leslie Klingner

Guillermo Rodriguez

Victor Palomino

Sharon Trammel

Robert Todd

Jaan Ferree

Councilman Cecil Bothwell

### Staff Present:

Brenda Mills, Office of Economic Development

Caroline Long, Office of Economic Development

### Guests Present:

Dr. Carl Mumpower, Morgan Memorial Committee Member

Steve Duncan, Morgan Memorial Committee, Chair

Danie Johnson, Architect (Morgan Memorial Project)

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Chair Robert Todd called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

#### 1. Approval of May 2014 Minutes

Gwynne Rukenbrod made a motion to approve the minutes, Guillermo Rodriguez seconded the motion, and all approved.

#### 2. Presentation—Colonel Robert Morgan Memorial

Dr. Mumpower presented the plan to install a memorial commemorating Colonel Robert Morgan's flight between City Hall and the Buncombe County Courthouse. He noted that he had already met with City Staff, and that the memorial had actually been approved several years ago in 2005 by Asheville City Council, and is finally ready to be installed and donated to the City's public art collection. He asked that the Public Art Commission be involved with the process and attend the unveiling ceremony slated for August 14, 2014.

#### 3. Americans for the Arts Annual Conference Update

Brenda Mills attended the conference in Nashville, and said it was amazing and started a lot of great conversations about Public Art. She stated that Asheville is looked up to as a great destination for the arts, and that she made a lot of connections with people who are interested in visiting Asheville. She will send the Commissioners YouTube links of the sessions so they can see what was discussed. Next year she hopes to have a larger Asheville delegation attend. The 2015 conference will be in Chicago.

#### 4. Sub-committee Reporting

The Community Engagement sub-committee has not met now awaiting term transition with current PACC members. They will begin researching alternative funding for the arts in Buncombe County, to include a 'cent tax' on alcohol and tobacco in order to create revenue for the arts, culture, and entertainment. Gwynne announced the partnership event with the Chamber on the Native American art on Tuesday July 15<sup>th</sup> from 11-3pm with a reception at 3:30pm. The commissioners will receive information about the event.

Jaan stated that Leslie attended the Urban Trail sub-committee meeting and shared her skills with the other members. They are exploring options for new acquisitions, and discussions regarding the continued respect and interest in the Urban Trail. Guillo noted they could create an Urban Trail app or use tour guides from the Convention & Visitor's Bureau. Cecil suggested that they link up with a college or university to see if they would be able to help create it.

#### 5. Acquisition Ad Hoc Committee

Guillermo stated the Committee is waiting for the work plan for next year before making any significant steps. The Committee is discussing a memorial for John Lantzius with the Asheville Downtown Association, which would be funded by his family and donated to the City.

He also spoke with Rick Ramsay about the possible addition of public art to commemorate the doorway at the Fine Arts Theater. He stated it might not end up being public art, as the doorway is on private property.

Gwynne recommended that the Commission attend training on negotiating art installation, design, and features. Brenda agreed that they will review best practices before the Nature Center installation takes place.

#### 6. Staff's Report and Information

Brenda met with Karen Cragnolin at Riverlink and will be training artists once per month on public contracting with the City of Asheville. Training will begin July 24<sup>th</sup> (10-12noon) and will cover insurance, go through an actual call for artists, and explain the 1% for art policy. Brenda encouraged PACC members to come to these meetings as available.

Brenda reminded the Commission that their annual retreat will be a two-hour dinner meeting following the next PACC meeting on August 28th. There will be 'homework' before the meeting to link Council's strategic goals to the mission and goals of the commission. The new board members are Jay Fields and Jenny Bowen, and Brenda will give them a short orientation before they come to the July meeting.

Guillo stated that the Asheville Design Center will be having a presentation on Public Art in September, and hoped that the PACC would be willing to attend. It is a PechaKucha, or 20 slides for 20 seconds each. He will e-mail out the date.

Robert requested the Acquisitions Sub-committee have a discussion about the 51 Biltmore project to evaluate the process.

Cecil asked about the mural under the I-240 bridge, and whether it would ever be 'finished,' as he had a concerned citizen approach him. Brenda stated the project was only ever meant to be on one side of the bridge as a welcoming image to downtown, and that it was spearheaded by the Department of Transportation and Arts 2 People. It was not a city-funded project.

#### 7. Recognition of Service

Robert recognized Leslie Klingner and Julie Calhoun-Roepnack for their willingness to serve, and Gwynne recognized Robert as chair and thanked him for his leadership.

Robert moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:27